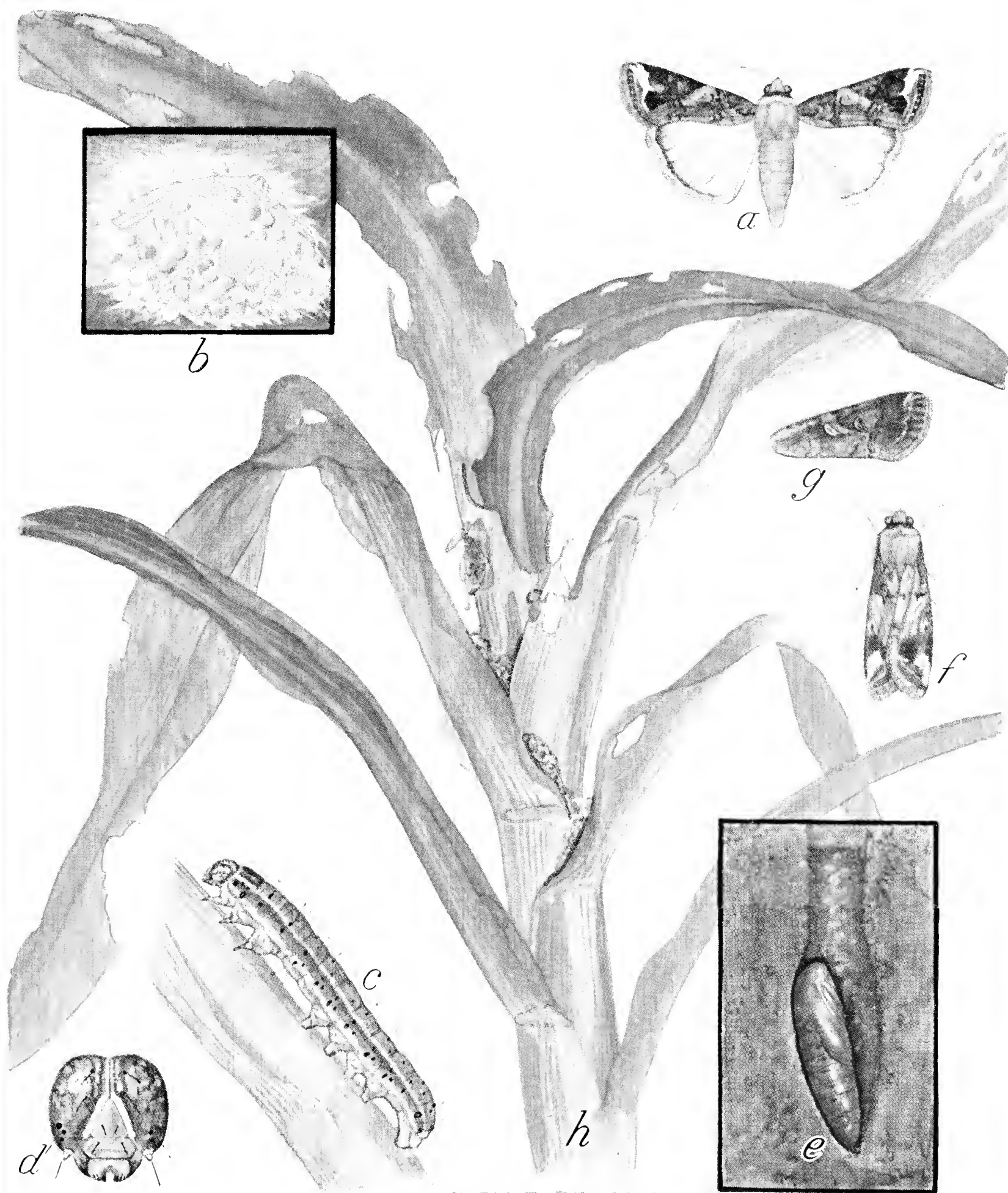


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# FALL ARMYWORM



*a*, Male moth (or adult); *b*, eggs; *c*, larva; *d*, face of larva; *e*, pupa in a cell; *f*, moth in resting posture; *g*, wing of female moth; *h*, feeding injury to corn plant. (*a*, *c*, *e*, *f*, *g*, *h* about  $1\frac{1}{3}$  times natural size; *b* twice natural size; *d* 8 times natural size.)

(See other side for life history and control)



## FALL ARMYWORM

(*Laphygma frugiperda* (S. and A.))

### Life History

The fall armyworm, known principally as an enemy of growing corn, feeds upon many other cultivated crops, such as alfalfa, cotton, grasses, and wild plants. The eggs are laid at night on grasses or other plants and hatch in about 5 days. The young larvae, caterpillars, or "worms," feeding at first in concealment near the ground, become full-grown in about 20 days, then enter the soil for a few inches and become pupae. The inactive pupal stage lasts about 10 days. After the moths emerge from the pupal cases they often fly for many miles before the females lay eggs. As many as six generations may occur annually in the Gulf States, but the insect does not survive the winter farther northward. In addition to eating the blades of corn, the larvae may bore into the ears, particularly the shanks of the ears, and feed extensively therein.

### Control

Under some conditions effective control of the fall armyworm may be secured by distributing a poisoned bait made as follows:

Wheat bran.....	50 pounds.
Paris green or white arsenic.....	2 pounds.
Low-grade molasses.....	1 gallon.
Water.....	5 gallons.

Mix the poison and bran thoroughly, in a dry state; then dissolve the molasses in the water and mix the liquid thoroughly into the poisoned bran. Broadcast this bait over ground where grass crops are infested; or put it in the leaf whorls of the corn plants, sprinkling it *thinly* in flakes, not lumps.

**WARNING:** Remember that paris green and white arsenic are violent poisons. Take care not to allow children or other persons, or livestock of any kind, to have access to the poison or to receptacles containing the poisoned bait. The best way to dispose of surplus bait is to broadcast it thinly on the ground in a field.

When the "worms" are crawling over the ground in large numbers, they may be readily trapped by plowing a furrow. They will fall into this and can then be crushed by dragging a log back and forth in it. Or, instead of dragging a log, post holes about 18 inches deep may be dug in the bottom of the furrow to serve as traps, in which the worms can be killed by crushing them or by sprinkling them with kerosene.

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